

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04
ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00
OMB-01 IO-14 ARA-14 AF-10 /130 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OT/GCP - MARC BAAS
APPROVED BY EB/OT/GCP - MARC BAAS
EA/EP - A GEBER
EB/OT - S AHMAD
EB/ICD - R MEYER (INFO)
-----103822 051236Z /45

R 050659Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: JAPANESE-ASEAN COOPERATION

1. ON JULY 26 EMBASSY ECONOMIC OFFICER NANAOCALLED ON
DEPTOFFS TO GIVE JAPANESE VIEW AND POSITION ON ASEAN
REQUESTS FOR PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT FROM JAPAN, AND TO
SEEK USGS REACTION. NANAOS SAID THAT ASEAN PUSHING
JAPAN IN TWO AREAS, PREFERENTIAL TRADING ARRANGEMENTS
SIMILAR TO THE LOME CONVENTION AND A STABEX SYSTEM
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TO SUPPORT ASEAN EXPORT EARNINGS. JAPANESE HAD DECIDED
THAT PREFERENTIAL TRADING ARRANGEMENT WAS NEITHER
DESIRABLE NOR POSSIBLE, AND WOULD SO INFORM THE ASEAN
COUNTRIES. JAPANESE DO PLAN TO OFFER TO GIVE SPECIAL
CONSIDERATION TO THE ADDITION TO THEIR GSP OF PRODUCTS
OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO ASEAN MEMBERS, ALTHOUGH PRODUCTS
WOULD BE ADDED FOR ALL COUNTRIES. NANAOS IMPLIED THAT

THIS WOULD NOT BE A PARTICULARLY SERIOUS EFFORT. HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO AVOID SAYING A FLAT NO TO BOTH ASEAN REQUESTS, JAPANESE WOULD MOST LIKELY AGREE TO "STUDY" THE STABEX PROPOSAL. NANA O STATED THAT GOJ PREFERRED TO GLOBALIZE ANY STABEX SYSTEM, RATHER THAN TO HAVE ONE STRICTLY ON A REGIONAL BASIS, BUT WOULD PROBABLY NOT SAY SO TO ASEAN AT THIS TIME. HE ENVISAGED THAT AS THE OUTCOME OF THE STUDY.

2. DEPTOFFS STATED THAT WE AGREED WHOLEHEARTEDLY WITH JAPANESE REFUSAL TO GRANT SPECIAL TRADE PREFERENCES TO ASEAN, THAT WE HAD RECEIVED AND RESISTED SIMILAR REQUESTS FROM SOME LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES, AND THAT BEST WAY TO HANDLE "PROBLEM" OF LOME AGREEMENT FROM POINT OF VIEW OF OTHER LDCS SEEMED TO BE GRADUAL EROSION OF BENEFITS UNDER THAT ARRANGEMENT BY A SUCCESSFUL MTN AND IMPROVEMENTS IN THE VARIOUS GSPS, AS APPROPRIATE. WE UNDERSTOOD JAPANESE PROBLEM OF RESPONDING TO VERY STRONG ASEAN PRESSURES FOR AID AND TRADE CONCESSIONS, BUT THOUGHT JAPAN COULD BEST ASSIST ASEAN THROUGH EXPANDED AID AND GLOBAL TRADE LIBERALIZATION. (WE HAD A BRIEF EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON ASEAN INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS AND ASEAN PREFERENTIAL TRADING ARRANGEMENTS). WE ALSO UNDERSTOOD JAPANESE DESIRE TO BE SOMEWHAT FORTHCOMING BY AGREEING TO STUDY THE STABEX PROPOSAL, BUT WERE UNCLASSIFIED

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PLEASED THAT THEY WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERING SUCH A PROPOSAL ON A GLOBAL BASIS, IN THE CONTEXT OF NEGOTIATIONS GOING ON IN OTHER FORA. WE ALSO STATED, AND NANA O AGREED, THAT WE WOULD HOPE TO HAVE FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOJ ON THIS ISSUE AS THEIR STUDY PROGRESSED. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE183381
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MARC BAAS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770281-0309
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Line Count: 100
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 77eb6f61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1696425
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAPANESE-ASEAN COOPERATION
TAGS: ETRD, JA, ASEAN
To: TOKYO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/77eb6f61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009